

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Chairman, Munitions Board

FROM: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Preparation of Subsection 62C (Petroleum), National Intelligence Surveys and of Petroleum Supplement to National Intelligence Surveys.

1. The Intelligence Agencies of the Federal Government are currently developing a joint basic intelligence program under the coordination of the Central Intelligence Agency. This basic intelligence is being compiled and continuously maintained in National Intelligence Surveys (NIS) to cover foreign countries, areas, or broad special subjects, as appropriate.

2. At present, basic intelligence on petroleum is included in Subsection 62C (Petroleum) of NIS Chapter VI (Economic). This Subsection is designed to meet the needs of strategic planning and initial highest level operational planning. Careful study, however, has led to the conclusion that the legitimate requirements of government agencies for basic intelligence on petroleum can not be fully met by Subsection 62C and that there should be added to the NIS Program and placed in production with the least practicable delay a Petroleum Supplement to NIS.

3. Paragraph 1 a (6) of NSCID No. 3, 13 January 1948, provides that departments or agencies of the government to be called on for contributions to the NIS Program may include agencies other than those represented permanently on the Intelligence Advisory Committee.

4. It appears that the Petroleum Committee, Munitions Board, is the government agency best qualified to produce both Subsection C, NIS, and the Petroleum Supplement to NIS and to handle the approach to the Petroleum Industry for obtaining information needed in this connection. Hence, I request, pursuant to the above reference, that you give consideration to having the Petroleum Committee assume these responsibilities.

5. I should welcome the earliest opportunity to present to the Petroleum Committee the petroleum requirements of NIS with a view to concluding arrangements for their implementation. If, therefore, you will inform me of the official with whom this matter may be discussed, I will arrange for a member of CIA to get in touch with him.